

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 have been examined. Claims 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, claim 9 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Also, the Examiner has indicated that claims 5 and 6 contain allowable subject matter.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner has rejected claims 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has amended claims 11 and 12 in a manner believed to overcome the rejection.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 9 in a manner believed to overcome the rejection.

III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yoda et al. (US 5,502,580) in view of Konishi (US 6,046,820).

A. Claim 1

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references. For example, claim 1 recites, “a step for referring to a previously stored profile and generating a color conversion table for transforming a specific color in said input image data into output image data wherein colors are rendered only by color components of the specific color.”

As set forth above, colors are rendered only by color components of a specific color. Such colors in the input image data are transformed into the output image data using a color conversion table. The color conversion table is generated in a step where a previously stored table is referenced. Applicant submits that at least these specific features of claim 1 are not taught or suggested in the cited references.

Yoda is directed to a color space data conversion formula that corresponds to the input and output conditions that can be selected from profiles of a plurality of conversion formulas for color reproduction (Abstract). Applicant submits, however, that Yoda does not generate a color conversion table for colors in the input image data rendered only by color components of the specific color. For example, as acknowledged by the Examiner, Yoda does not disclose that colors are rendered only by color components of a specific color (pg. 4 of Office Action). Rather, as set forth above, Yoda merely shows color conversion by referring to a plurality of profiles. Thus, the “image conversion table” of Yoda fails to teach or suggest the claimed color conversion table.

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Turning to Konishi, the reference is directed to computer correction of tonality of image information based upon a grayscale correction table (Abstract). Specifically, Konishi discloses a special color conversion table for adjusting color component values referring to actual printed and scanned values. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, however, such colors are not rendered only by color components of a *specific color*.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.

B. Claims 2, 9, 11 and 12

Since claims 2, 9, 11 and 12 contain features that are analogous to the features discussed above for claim 1, Applicant submits that claims 2, 9, 11 and 12 are patentable for at least analogous reasons as claim 1.

C. Claims 3, 4, 7 and 8

Since claims 3, 4, 7 and 8 are dependent upon claim 1, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

As set forth above, the Examiner has indicated that claims 5 and 6 contain allowable subject matter.

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V. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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